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ALABAMA TROOPERS ASSIST NEIGHBORING STATES DURING HURRICANE'S AFTERMATH

Alabama state troopers are assisting highway patrol officers in Mississippi and Florida during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, according to Public Safety Director Col. W. M. Coppage. He said troopers are assisting in these neighboring states in addition to their continuing relief efforts in Mobile and other Alabama locations affected by the storm.

Troopers are assisting Mississippi officers in redirecting and detouring emergency response and returning evacuation traffic. Alabama troopers also are providing escort for tanker trucks and relief supply vehicles entering Florida.

"Following a major weather catastrophe like Hurricane Katrina, the coordination of law enforcement and emergency response agencies is critical. Alabama's troopers will continue working 24/7 with agencies in Alabama and our neighboring states to bring needed assistance to storm victims," said Coppage.

He added that in addition to assisting with storm relief, troopers throughout Alabama were attending to their routine patrol duties and were preparing for an increased enforcement effort during the upcoming Labor Day holiday travel period.

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